Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for viewing information, said method comprising,

employing one or more data objects contained within at least one data source,

employing a spatial paradigm to define hierarchical relationships between said data objects,

generating an appearance of a subset of said data objects associated with said spatial paradigm in a virtual space for display from an adjustable viewing perspective of the user, said appearance being based on the location of said subset of said data objects in said virtual space, wherein said virtual space includes a first dimension, a second dimension, and a third dimension, said first dimension corresponding to a plurality of planes within said virtual space at which one of said data objects can be located and said second and said third dimensions corresponding to a position of said one of said data objects within a plane, said planes being located along said first dimension according to said hierarchical relationship, and

enabling said user to navigate said data objects in a substantially unrestricted fashion.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, determining said appearance for said subset of said data objects, wherein said appearance of at least one of said subset of said data objects is dependent, at least in part, on said hierarchical relationships between said one and said subset of said objects, and said viewing perspective of said user.

3. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, changing said appearance in a seemingly continuous, non-discrete manner in response to said user commanding an adjustment

of said viewing perspective.

4. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, storing said data objects associated with said spatial paradigm in a database according to said hierarchical relationships.

5. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, enabling a third party to define at least a portion of said hierarchical relationships between at least a portion of said data objects for a particular data source.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, enabling a third party to specify said spatial paradigm.

7. (original) A method according to claim 4 further comprising, re-profiling said at least one data source to update said data objects stored in said database.

8. (original) A method according to claim 4 further comprising, deconstructing at least one prior existing relationship between said data objects before storing said data objects in said database.

9. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, extracting data objects associated with said spatial paradigm from at least one Web server computer.

10. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, extracting said data objects associated with said spatial paradigm from at least one of a legacy database, an algorithm, a simulation, a live information feed, a model, a substantially real-time source, a file system, a file and a storage device.

11. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, providing said virtual appearance for each of said subset of said data objects by rendering selected details of said subset

of said data objects, wherein said selected details approximate a physical appearance that said subset of said data objects would have to the user having said viewing perspective.

12. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, defining a virtual distance between a virtual location of said adjustable viewing perspective and virtual locations of said subset of said data objects, determining said appearance of said subset of said data objects, at least in part, in dependence on said virtual distance, and displaying said appearance to said user.

13. (original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said step of displaying said appearance further comprises, displaying more detail for said one of said data objects in response to said virtual distance decreasing.

14. (original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said step of displaying said appearance further comprises, displaying less detail for ones of said data objects in response to said virtual distance increasing.

15. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, enabling said user to enter a term, determining a correspondence between any of said data objects and said term, and in response to determining a correspondence, including corresponding ones of said data objects in said subset of said data objects.

16. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, defining a viewing direction for said user, defining an angle between said viewing direction and at least one of said data objects, and determining said appearance of said at least one of said data objects, at least in part, in dependence on said angle.

17. (original) A method according to claim 16 further comprising, fixing said viewing direction.

18. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising, defining a virtual position of said user in relation to said subset of said data objects, caching graphical information for one or more data objects virtually located within a predefined vicinity of said user, and employing said cached graphical information to provide said virtual appearance for at least one of said one or more data objects in response to said user navigating within a predefined virtual distance of said at least one of said one or more data objects.

19. (original) A method according to claim 18 further comprising, determining whether one or more data objects are virtually located within said predefined vicinity in dependence on said hierarchical relationship of said data objects, starting from the virtual position of said user.

20. (original) A method according to claim 18 further comprising, determining whether one or more data objects are virtually located within said predefined vicinity based on predefined coordinates of said data objects in said virtual space, starting from the virtual position of said user.

Claims 21-103 (canceled)

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheet 1 of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1 and replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Figure 1 as filed had two reference numbers 102. As supported by the specification and Figure 11 as filed, it is clear that the data sources should be referred to using reference number 112. Figure 1 has been revised to correct this typographical error.

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheet (1 page)
Annotated Sheet Showing Change(s) (1 page)